

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MASERU 00266 161140Z

15

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INR-07 PM-04 DODE-00 /018 W
----- 028971

R 161010Z MAR 76
FM AMEMBASSY MASERU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5606
INFO AMEMBASSY MBABANE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MASERU 0266

FROM AMBASSADOR

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, BC, US
SUBJECT: DATT FOR BOTSWANA

REF: STATE 59228

1. APPRECIATE INTEREST OF ARMY AND AIR ATTACHES BEING ACCREDITED TO GOB. THEY HAVE BEEN HELPFUL TO EMBASSY ON NUMBER OF OCCASIONS AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO THEIR CONTINUED COOPERATION.
 2. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF NON-EXISTENCE OF MILITARY FORCES IN BOTSWANA WE DO NOT CONSIDER IT APPROPRIATE TO ASK FOR ACCREDITATION OF US MILITARY ATTACHES AT THIS TIME. QUESTION PRESENTLY HIGHLY SENSITIVE BECAUSE OF DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. WE FEEL THAT EVEN IF THERE ON BALANCE JUSTIFICATION FOR ACCREDITATION, TIMING WOULD MAKE IT INAPPROPRIATE NOW.
 3. AS FAR AS MISSION KNOWS, LACK OF ACCREDITATION HAS BEEN NO HANDICAP TO ATTACHE ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA. OVERFLIGHT AND LANDING CLEARANCES ARE GRANTED NORMALLY WITH NO DIFFICULTIES.
- BOLEN

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Message Attributes

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